GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:190
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2008
INVESTMENT IN NORTH EASTERN STATES UNDER LOOK EAST POLICY
Subba Shri Moni Kumar

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister of External Affairs at a recent meeting in New Delhi with Chief Ministers of the North Eastern States stressed the need for more investment and commercial opportunities in the North Eastern States and also linking of roads in pursuance of the ' Look East' Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) Yes.

(b) A meeting on the subject was chaired by External Affairs Minister on October 31, 2007. At the meeting, the importance of internal transportation connectivity in all modes for the development of North Eastern region was highlighted. The meeting was also informed of the efforts being made by the Government, to increase international connectivity. To this end, discussions are being held with concerned neighbouring countries, both in the bilateral and multilateral framework to enhance economic, commercial and trade links with these countries.

(c) The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, being responsible for the overall development of North Eastern States, including the building up of the physical infrastructure, will be providing state-wise details on the specific steps being taken by them in due course.